



COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the programme

1.1 Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	European Studies Faculty
1.3 Department	International Relations and German Studies
1.4 Field of study	American Studies
1.5 Study level	BA
1.6 Programme of study/ Qualification	American Studies

2. Information about the discipline

2.1 Module	American political discourse						
2.2 Course holder	Lecturer Gabriel Gherasim PhD						
2.3 Seminar holder	Assistant lecturer Ana Pantea PhD						
2.4 Year of study	3	2.5 Semester	1	2.6. Type of assessment ¹	E.	2.7 Type of module ²	OB

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 No. of hours per week	4	3.1 of which for course	2	3.3 of which for seminar	2
3.4 Total no. of hours in the curriculum	56	3.5 of which for course	28	3.6 of which for seminar	28
Time distribution:					11
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					3
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					3
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					2
Tutoring					1
Examinations					2
Other activities:					
3.7 Total no. of hours for individual study					3
3.8 Total no. of hours per semester					154
3.9 No. of ETCS credit points					6

4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1 of curriculum	• none
4.2 of competencies	• none

¹ E - exam, ME - multi-term examinations, C - collocutional examination/assessment test

² OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 For the development of the course	• none
5.2 For the development of the seminar/laboratory	• none

6. Specific skills acquired

Professional skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using and interpreting various kinds of discourses (literary, artistic, historical, political, media, etc.) in contemporary American society • using the methods and concepts of social or humanistic sciences and the mechanisms for integrating the various contributions of diverse social sciences and humanities in an interdisciplinary, logically coherent approach.
Interdisciplinary skills	Applying team building techniques; developing interpersonal communication skills and taking on specific roles during team work.

7. Course objectives (based on list of acquired skills)

7.1 General objective	Analysing, interpreting and using American public discourse; understanding and using the concepts and methods specific to political discourse.
7.2 Specific objectives	Applying discourse theories to public political manifestations. Applying discursive techniques to group debates; developing interpersonal communication skills from the perspective of political discourse.

8. Contents

8.1 Lecture	Teaching methods	Observations
Introduction: political discourses of American presidents	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents I	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents II	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents III	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents IV	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents V	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents VI	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological	Interactive lecture	

commitments of US presidents VII		
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents VIII	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents IX	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents X	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents XI	Interactive lecture	
Political orientations and ideological commitments of US presidents XII	Interactive lecture	
General overview of the presidential tradition in America	Interactive lecture	

Bibliography:

Robert Dallek, *The American Presidency: From Theodore Roosevelt to Ronald Reagan*, Boston University Press, 2003.

Glenn Hastedt, *Encyclopaedia of American Foreign Policy*, New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2004.

Douglas F. Foyle, *Counting the Public In: Presidents, Public Opinion and Foreign Policy*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.

Jonathan C. D. Clark, *The Language of Liberty 1660-1832. Political Discourse and Social Dynamics in the Anglo-American World*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994.

Adam F. Simon, *The Winning Message: Candidate Behavior, Campaign Discourse and Democracy*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Andrew Tolson, *Media Talk: Spoken Discourse on TV and Radio*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2006.

Neil A. Hamilton, *American Presidents: A Biographical Dictionary*, New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2005.

8.2 Seminar / Laboratory	Teaching methods	Observations
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents I	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents II	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents III	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents IV	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents V	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents VI	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents VII	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents VIII	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents IX	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US	Analysing and interpreting the	

presidents X	inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents XI	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents XII	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents XIII	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	
Analysing the inaugural addresses of US presidents XIV	Analysing and interpreting the inaugural discourses of American presidents	

Bibliography:

Jim Manis (ed.), *The Inaugural Addresses of the U.S. Presidents. From George Washington to Bill Clinton*, The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1998.

9. The correspondence between the content of the course and the expectations of the academic community, professional associations and representative employers in the field:

Knowing the methods of analysing political discourse is essential to all employees in the field of media.

10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Percentage of the final grade
10.4 Course	Applying the main theories of political discourse in the scientific analysis of American political discourse.	Research paper	100%
10.5 Seminar	Analysing and interpreting the main points of the American presidents' inaugural speeches.	Oral presentation	100%
10.6 Minimum standard of performance			
The minimal grade 5; the final grade is the arithmetic mean of the paper and the seminar grade.			

Date

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Course holder signature

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Seminar holder signature

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Date of departmental approval

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Head of department signature

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